

Miami Township Trustees
Greene County, OH
Minutes of June 1, 2026

**see acronym glossary following minutes*

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Moir, with Trustee Mucher and Trustee Askeland present.

Fire Captain Nate Ayers, Fiscal Officer Cyndi Pauwels, and Zoning Administrator Bryan Lucas were in attendance.

Yellow Springs News Editor Lauren Shows and residents Peter Buswinka, Fred Stockwell, and KellyAnn Tracy were also present.

Trustees Agenda Approval

Trustee Moir asked to add a discussion re: a pending agreement letter with Attorneys Bricker Graydon Wyatt under New Business. Trustee Askeland so **moved**, and Trustee Mucher **seconded**, and **the motion carried unanimously**.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Askeland **moved to adopt the minutes** of May 18, 2026, as presented. Trustee Mucher **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

Correspondence

Trustee Askeland shared correspondence from a citizen re: **a potential safety hazard because of the speed limit/signage on Dayton Yellow Springs Road leaving the Village**. After a brief discussion, it was agreed Trustee Askeland should refer them to the Greene County Engineer's Office.

Trustee Askeland shared an **updated timeline for the .net/.gov domain switch**. The website has the new URL; emails will be moved tomorrow (June 2, 2026).

Citizen Concerns

Ms. Tracy shared the **contributions made to EMS Appreciation Week by Mark Heise of Yellow Springs Branding**. He provided MTR caps at cost and contributed bumper stickers/decals. The Trustees expressed their appreciation.

Ms. Tracy said she was **“disheartened” at the communication level witnessed when she watched the video of the May 18, 2026, Trustees’ meeting**. She explained her concern at a perceived lack of “remorse” from Trustee Mucher re: the Medicare reimbursement situation and of “abuse and bullying” from him toward fellow Trustees. Ms. Tracy said she would be **forwarding the minutes, videos, and documents on the matter received via public records requests to the Ohio State Auditor for their review**.

Fire Department Report

In Chief Cannell's absence, Captain Ayers shared the **MTFR report** (see below).

After noting recent new hires are adapting well, he presented Chief's request to **hire Andrew Reichert**, Sunbury resident and a recent graduate of the Delaware Area Career Center Fire/EMS Program, **as part-time FF/EMT**; to **rescind the full-time status of Dan Watt and continue him as part-time FF/EMT** due to his full-time hire by another department; and to **upgrade Jax Lawrence from part-time FF/EMT to full-time, all effective May 30, 2026**. Trustee Askeland so **moved**, and Trustee Mucher **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Trustee Moir shared her concerns with the apparent **MTFR hiring process**. She's also discussed the matter with Consultant Fredrick Kauser. As a result, she entertained a motion to **request Chief Cannell do three things**:

1. Establish hiring criteria for full-time firefighters and full-time firefighters/paramedics
2. Establish a continuous full-time hire list
3. Establish a process for lateral full-time hires (refers to OP&R retirement status)

After a brief discussion, Trustee Askeland so **moved**, and Trustee Mucher **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Captain Ayers shared the remainder of Chief's report, ending with **MTFR coverage plans for Street Fair on June 13, 2026**. Trustee Mucher asked if there were logistical changes to be addressed for the event; Captain Ayers said there were not.

Cemetery and Road Report

Cemetery:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Moir reported **five (5) burials**: two (2) in the Prairie, one in the old section of Glen Forest, and two (2) at Clifton.

Trustee Askeland shared a **citizen concern re: old, damaged headstones**. During the discussion, Trustee Mucher said headstones are the property of the plot owner, not the Township. He reported the Township has equipment/supplies on hand, "a time-consuming process," to repair them after a seminar with Grave Groomers ~12 years ago. The company has also been hired to repair ~100 headstones since the Township took over the cemetery. Trustee Askeland will review the matter further with the concerned citizen.

Trustee Askeland asked for background on the **rates charged Clifton Cemetery for mowing and maintenance, specifically as they relate to equipment rental**. From her discussion with Mr. Gochenouer, that rate (\$4.95/hour) was set in the 1990s.

Ms. Pauwels read aloud from the January 5, 2026, organizational meeting minutes the vote agreeing to the contract, with rates to be negotiated later.

After Trustee Moir asked for **clarification of Clifton Cemetery ownership**, Trustee Mucher provided a history of its development. He noted the Clifton-Union Cemetery Board is a separate entity, with Green Township in Clark County and Miami Township represented on the Board which then contracts with Miami Township for those services. They are free to contract elsewhere.

Mr. Lucas shared the **Greene County Recorder's GIS information on the three (3) parcels making up the Clifton Cemetery showing split ownership**.

After further discussion on how best to determine accurate rates to be charged next year, Trustee Askeland indicated she would continue her research.

Roads:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Moir reported crews continue with their regular "rotation" mowing.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Payment listing **5/16-31/2026: \$67,406.14**

The **2024-2025 audit has been set for June 18-19, 2026**, onsite. However, Ms. Pauwels reported the auditing firm noted that given the issues to be addressed and the State backlog, it could be six (6) months before a final report is issued.

Zoning Administrator's Report

Mr. Lucas shared his **monthly report** (see below).

Mr. Stockwell asked if the **newly-adopted BZA Rules and Procedures** mentioned were available for review, and suggested they also be shared with the Zoning Commission. He was assured they would be available (*Mr. Lucas provided a hard copy to Mr. Stockwell before the meeting ended.*)

Old Business

Trustee Askeland shared an update on the **website ADA compliance issues**. The estimate from current webmaster Deb Slater to correct those issues was discussed, including how long meeting minutes need to be online versus available in the office/on request. Given the dollar amounts involved, **the job may require other estimates/bids before a decision can be made to proceed**. The Ohio Township Association (OTA) is offering a webinar in July on compliance that may be helpful as well. Trustee Moir suggested that as long as efforts are underway to comply, the Township may be covered legally for the time being.

After a personal call with Greene County Prosecutor David Hayes re: the previously discussed Medicare reimbursement issue, Trustee Mucher asked for permission to invite Mr. Hayes to a meeting to clarify his advice with the full Board. Trustee Moir so moved, and Trustee Askeland seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Mucher asked to delay his requested Board of Trustees policy review until next meeting. In response to questions re: which policies they should be prepared to discuss, he said “in general,” and “meetings.”

New Business

Trustee Moir reviewed her request added to the agenda to sign a “letter of agreement” with law firm Bricker Graydon Wyatt for consultation on the Section 125 paperwork needed for healthcare HSA compliance. After a brief discussion, Trustee Askeland moved to sign the letter – which is not a contract for services, and Trustee Mucher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Moir rescheduled the cancelled work session re: a possible capital equipment levy for MTFR for Thursday, June 11, at 9 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2026, at 5 p.m.

Chairperson _____ Attest _____

***Acronyms:**

- MTFR: Miami Township Fire & Rescue
- MVRPC: Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
- OTA: Ohio Township Association
- RPCC: Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission
- YSDC: Yellow Springs Development Corporation

/clp

Miami Twp. Trustee Meeting- Fire Chief Report

Personnel/Staffing-

Onboarding of several new personnel is progressing well. All new members are adapting quickly and have been well received by the department.

Recommendation to hire Andrew Reichert as a part-time employee. Andrew is a Sunbury resident and a recent graduate of the Delaware Area Career Center Fire/EMS Program.

Recommend resending full-time status of Dan Watt, continue part-time status; upgrade Jax Lawrance from part-time to full-time status. Dan Watt accepted another full-time job in the central Ohio area.

Operations-

504 runs year-to-date (see run/staffing report)

No significant incidents

Building-

Continuing discussions regarding the need for an air compressor, including review of quotes and available options.

Apparatus/Vehicles/Equipment-

The Chief's vehicle is currently undergoing the upfit process, which is expected to take approximately two weeks.

The FEMA grant application period opened on May 19 and closes on June 22. On behalf of MTRF, Grant Source Professionals will be submitting two grant applications:

1. Fire Prevention & Safety Grant – comprehensive request including personnel, equipment, training, and adoption/enforcement activities.
2. Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) – request for full replacement cost of new SCBA equipment, estimated at more than \$100,000.

Misc.

Preparations are underway for the Yellow Springs Street Fair on June 13.

- MTRF will staff both medic units, the fire engine, and two stand-by locations near the Mills Park Hotel and Bryan Center.
- A total of 12 personnel are scheduled to staff the event from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Springfield Township will again be loaning MTRF their UTV for the event.

Miami Township Trustees
Zoning Administrator Staff Report
May 2026

- **Zoning Permits Issued: 3**
 - (2) Detached garage on SR 370 & Huston Rd.
 - (1) Riding Center on Hyde Rd

- **Board of Zoning Appeals:**
 - Public hearing held on 5/28. BZA approved temporary use for 12 Dave Chappell summer comedy shows.
 - Michael Vincent was sworn in as the newest member and started his tenure with the BZA.
 - Finalized and approved a set of Rules of Procedure for the board.

- **Zoning Commission:**
 - Completed text amendment for Article 2 (Definitions) and forwarded onto RPCC for approval.
 - Board expressed their appreciation to the Trustees for approving the grant text amendments.